salaries, etc., of employees under Section 217(2A) of the Companies Act in view of the shortage of printing paper and the mounting cost of printing; or whether Government propose to increase the limit of Rs. 3,000 per month or Rs. 36,000/- per annum stipulated in this regard when the limits for the purpose of Bonus, ESI, PF etc. have been recently revised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Government is in the process of finalising its views on Sachar Committee's recommendations relating to Companies Act, 1956.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No proposal for dispensing with requirement as regards publishing information in respect of salaries etc. of employees under Section 217 (2A) of Companies Act, 1956 is presently under consideration of Government. The suggestion in regard to increase of existing limit of Rs. 3,000 per month is under consideration of Government alongwith other suggestions for amendment of Companies Act and proposals in this behalf have not been finalised.

Industrial units set up by industrial houses

2662. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small industrial units set up by the big industrial houses and foreign firms in the country to take the advantages/special benefits for the small scale sectors during the last two years; and

(b) the steps contemplated by Government to remove the legal lacuna in this regard and to safeguard the interests of the small scale sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). In terms of Government Notification of 16th February, 1973, setting up of a small scale undertaking with investment in plant and machinery not exceeding the prescribed limits is exempted from the licensing provisions of the I (D&R) Act, 1951. However, this exemption is not available, if such a small scale unit is a subsidiary of, or owned or controlled by any other undertaking. In view of this provision, setting up of a small scale unit by any other undertaking without obtaining an industrial licence would attract the penal provisions of the I (D&R) Act. Such small scale undertakings which are not eligible for exemption from licensing are also not eligible for the special concessions/incentives available under various schemes announced by the Government intended for protection or development of small scale units. This policy has been specifically brought to the notice of the State Governments for implementation. As the small scale units are registered by the State Governments, information on the number of such units which might have been set up by big industrial houses or foreign firms is not centrally maintained.

News Item Captioned "Top posts in public sector go abegging"

2663. SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the *Economic Times* dated the 3rd September, 1985, captioned, "Top posts in public sector go abegging";

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that the tenure management posts at the top for shorter periods fail to attract talent; and

(d) what effective measures Government propose to take to fill up all the vacant posts in the public sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) As on 30-11-1985, 32 posts of Chief Executives and 30 posts of Functional Directors were vacant. Recruitment action has already been initiated to fill up the existing vacancies except in those cases where the post have been kept in abeyance pending consideration of re-organisation of some public enterprises.

As per existing policy, these appointees are given an initial tennure of two years and subject to their satisfactory performance, their tenures are further extended upto a period of five years with the condition that the extended tenure will not go beyond their date of superannuation.

Government also keeps a close watch on the vacancy position and initiates advance action wherever possible to expedite selection. Among the other steps taken in this regard, mention may be made of the systematic holding of interviews by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PCSB) which meet normally twice a week for this purpose.

Measures for preventing industrial units going sick

2664. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what measures Government propose to take regarding prevention of industrial units going sick; and

(b) what are the latest figures of sick industrial units, large, medium and small, and scheduled banks capital locked in those units, and number of unemployed labour because of the sickness of the units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) To deal with the problem of industrial sickness in the country, Government have issued certain policy guidelines for guidance of Central Ministries, State Governments and Banks and Financial Institutions in October, 1981. The salient features of these guidelines were furnished in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 700 on 15-7-1982.

Also the bill viz. 'The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Bill, 1985' has been passed by the Lok Sabha on 9th December, 1985 which provides, *inter-alia* for timely detection of sick and potentially sick industrial units and for establishment of a quasijudicial body to be designated as the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction with powers to consider suitable remedial measures for speedy rehablitation of potentially viable sick industrial units.

(b) Data on sick industrial units assisted by banks are collected by the Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by it. As per the latest data furnished by it, the number of sick units and the amount outstanding against these units as on 31st December, 1984 (Provisional) are shown below:

	No. of Sick Units	Amount (Rs. in crores)
Large . . .	545	2330.12
Medium . . .	1287	408.58
Small Scale . .	91,450	879.69
	93,282	3638.39

Data on number of workers employed in these sick units is neither centrally maintained in this Ministry nor collected by the Reserve Bank of India.

2665. [*Transferred to the 17th December, 1985*]

Allotments of Vespa Xe scooters by M/s. Lohia Machines

2666. SHRI RAM CHANDRA BHARADWAJ: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applications for allotment of Vespa Xe scooters received by M/s. Lohia Machines, Kanpur after